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Army enlists 3 active duty soldiers ousted for refusing COVID-19 vaccine, corrects other numbers

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army said it has reenlisted three active duty soldiers who were discharged for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine, as it works to implement President Donald Trump's executive order that troops be rehired and given back pay.

However, the Army said Thursday that it hasn't recently reenlisted more than 20 reservists, contradicting statements it made earlier this week. Instead, the correct total is three active duty soldiers and zero reservists.

Army officials said they mistakenly provided the wrong number to The Associated Press when asked repeatedly over the past week how many soldiers have come back to the service since Trump's order.

"The numbers provided were soldiers who rejoined the National Guard after the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act, which rescinded the COVID-19



Staff Sgt. Travis Snyder, left, receives the first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine given at Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington state, Dec. 16, 2020, south of Seattle.

mandate not for Soldiers who rejoined after the EO," the Army said in a statement Thursday.

"The Army is committed to maintaining the highest standards of accuracy and transparency. We regret this error."

The three active duty soldiers reenlisted by the Army is still more than all of the other services.

None of the others has brought in any service members under the new plan. All, however, are reaching out to former troops who

were discharged for refusing to obey a lawful order to take the vaccine.

The Marine Corps, Air Force, Army and Navy set up new websites on Monday to provide information for service members looking to reenlist. And they are

Associated Press

sending letters and emails and making calls to those who were discharged.

Trump has argued that the vaccine mandate wrongly pushed troops out and suggested that many would return. In an executive order signed a week after he took office, Trump said the vaccine mandate cost the military "some of our best people" and he vowed to "rehire every patriot who was fired from the military with ... backpay."

Those who may have been attracted by the offer of back pay will likely get far less money than they initially thought when Trump announced his plan. Under the details of the Pentagon offer, any wages earned during their time as civilians would be deducted from the back pay total, along with other payments they may have received.

The Pentagon made the COVID-19 vaccine mandatory in August 2021 for all service members, including those in the National Guard and Reserve. □

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U.S. budget deficit grows to \$1.3 trillion, the second highest six-month level on record

By FATIMA HUSSEIN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. budget deficit has grown to more than \$1.3 trillion in the first half of the 2025 fiscal year the second highest six-month deficit on record, according to Treasury Department data released Thursday.

The deficit for October through March spans the administrations of President Joe Biden and President Donald Trump.

The previous high in the four decades of record-keeping was \$1.7 trillion in the first half of fiscal year 2021, when the government was tackling the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Treasury official who spoke on the condition of



Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent speaks to reporters outside the West Wing of the White House, Wednesday, April 9, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

anonymity to preview the data said the increased spending was in part due to a mix of expenditures, including cost of living increases to Social Security payouts, higher Medicare and Medicaid costs. □

Republican bill requiring proof of citizenship for voting passes U.S. House

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY,
CHRISTINE FERNANDO and
LISA MASCARO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House passed one of Republicans' signature issues for the year on Thursday, approving legislation to require proof of U.S. citizenship when registering to vote for federal elections, one of President Donald Trump's top election-related priorities.

Nearly all Democrats lined up against the bill and warned that it risks disenfranchising millions of Americans who do not have ready access to the proper documents.

Trump has long signaled a desire to change how elections are run in the U.S. and last month issued a sweeping executive order that included a citizenship requirement among other election-related changes. Republicans argued the legislation, known as the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act, is necessary to ensure only citizens vote in U.S. elections and would cement Trump's order into law.

U.S. Rep. Bryan Steil, a Wisconsin Republican who chairs the House committee that handles election legislation, said during Thursday's debate that the bill is meant to "restore Americans' confidence in our elections" and prevent noncitizens from voting.

This marks Republicans' second attempt at passing the SAVE Act. It passed the House last year but failed in the Senate amid Democratic opposition.

It's unlikely to fare any better this year. While Republicans won control of the Senate last fall, they have a narrow majority that falls short of the 60 votes they would need to overcome a filibuster.

Republicans hammered on the issue during last year's presidential election, even though voting by noncitizens is rare, already is illegal and can lead to felony charges and deportation. The SAVE Act would require



Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, R-La., takes questions from reporters at a news conference, at the Capitol, in Washington, Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

Associated Press

all applicants using the federal voter registration form to provide documentary proof of citizenship in person at their local election office. Among the acceptable documents are a valid U.S. passport and a government-issued photo ID card presented alongside a certified birth certificate. Democrats and voting rights groups warn the legislation could lead to widespread voter disenfranchisement if it were to become law. The Brennan Center for Justice and other groups estimated in a 2023 report that 9% of U.S. citizens of voting age, or 21.3 million people, do not have proof of their citizenship readily available. Almost half of Americans don't have a U.S. passport. In Kansas, a proof-of-citizenship requirement that passed in 2011 ended up blocking the voter registrations of more than 31,000 U.S. citizens in the state who were otherwise eligible to vote. The law was later declared unconstitutional by a federal court and hasn't been enforced since 2018. "Just to exercise their inalienable right as citizens of this country, Republicans would force Americans into a paperwork nightmare," said Rep. Joe Morelle, a Democrat from New York.

"This bill is really about disenfranchising Americans not noncitizens, Americans."

A further concern came up several times Thursday: Married women would need multiple documents to prove their citizenship if they have changed their name.

It was a complication that arose in town hall elections held last month in New Hampshire, which was enforcing a new state law requiring proof of citizenship to register. One woman, since divorced, told a local elections clerk that her first marriage was decades ago in Florida and that she no longer had the marriage certificate showing her name change. She was unable to register and vote for her town election.

"This legislation would immediately disenfranchise the 69 million women who have changed their names after marriage or divorce," said Rep. Deborah Ross, a Democrat from North Carolina.

Rep. Laurel Lee, a Republican from Florida, said the bill "contemplates this exact situation" of married women whose names have changed, saying it "explicitly directs states to establish a process for them to register to vote."

Morelle countered by saying, "Why not write it in the bill? Why are we making the potential for 50 different standards to be set? ... How much paperwork do Republicans expect Americans to drown in?"

On a call with reporters Thursday, Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas, a Democrat, said she started trying to gather her own personal documents that would be required under the bill about 10 days ago. She doesn't yet have them together despite having more time and know-how than many other people.

"It pushes women out of the democratic process," she said of the documentation requirement. "And it's not a coincidence. It's part of a strategy to make voting harder, to sow distrust in our elections."

Democrats also said the bill would disproportionately affect older people in assisted care facilities, military service members who wouldn't be able to solely use their military IDs, people of color and working-class Americans who may not have the time or money to jump through bureaucratic hoops. "The SAVE Act is everything our civil rights leaders fought against," said Rep. Nikema Williams,

a Democrat from Georgia. Republicans have defended the legislation as necessary to restore public confidence in elections and say it allows states to adopt procedures to help voters comply. They have disputed Democratic characterizations of the bill.

Four Democrats voted in favor of the legislation: Reps. Ed Case of Hawaii, Henry Cuellar of Texas, Jared Golden of Maine and Marie Perez of Washington.

"The truth is, those who were registered to vote would still be able to vote under their current registration," said Rep. Chip Roy, a Texas Republican who sponsored the bill. "We have mechanisms giving the state fairly significant deference to make determinations as to how to structure the situation where an individual does have a name change, which of course is often women."

On Thursday, Roy said Clela Mitchell, a key figure in Trump's campaign to overturn the 2020 election results, "had a significant hand in what we're doing here." Mitchell, a longtime GOP lawyer, has played a central role in coordinating the movement to tighten voting laws across the country.

Trump lost the 2020 election to Democrat Joe Biden but has repeatedly made the bogus claim that it was stolen from him. There is no evidence to support Trump's claim: Elections officials and his own attorney general rejected the notion, and his arguments have been roundly dismissed by the courts, including judges he appointed.

Adrian Fontes, a Democrat who serves as Arizona's top state election official, described the voting proposal as a solution in search of a problem, given how rare noncitizen voting is.

"What it is doing is capitalizing on fear -- fear built on a lie," Fontes said. "And the lie is that a whole bunch of people who aren't eligible are voting. That's just not true." □

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Shark attack survivor presses her state for an alert system to keep people safe in the water

By KIM CHANDLER
Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)

— An Alabama teen who narrowly survived a fierce shark attack last year said she hopes a proposed alert system before state lawmakers can help keep others safe in the water.

Lulu Gribbin, now 16, was one of three people bitten by a shark on June 7, 2024, during a string of attacks off the Florida Panhandle. She lost her left hand and a portion of her leg. On Wednesday, she asked Alabama lawmakers to support a proposed shark attack alert system.

The bill by Republican Rep. David Faulkner would establish an alert system, similar to the Amber Alert system, that would issue a notice to the public when there's been an unprovoked shark attack in the vicinity.

"Ninety minutes before me, there was another shark attack a couple miles down the coast," Gribbin said. Had she known about that attack, she and her friend



A man walks past a sign prohibiting water activity above Tide Beach after a shark attack in Solana Beach, Calif. Friday, April 25, 2008.

would not have ventured into the water that day, she said. "This bill will help prevent future attacks and accidents."

The Alabama House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee advanced the bill Wednesday. It now moves to the full Alabama House of Rep-

resentatives. The first of its kind system

Gribbin and her friend had been diving for sand dollars before the attack. They were riding the waves back to the beach when her friend screamed, "shark!"

"I saw a big shadow, but we all just started swimming for our lives," She recalled.

She said she tried to remain calm, remembering that sharks were supposed to be attracted to frantic motion. Then the shark attacked her and her friend. "My hand was bitten first. I remember just lifting it out of the water, and I was stunned because there was no hand there. I

couldn't feel it because of all the shock I was in. Then the shark latched onto my leg," she recalled.

A man she describes as a hero ran to pull her from the water. She blacked out and came to on the shore where a doctor and other medical workers, who were on the beach that day, rushed to save her. "I remember being focused just to keep my eyes open and to breathe, to just be able to make it to the hospital," she said.

Her lengthy recovery has been documented on social media. As she visited the Alabama Statehouse, people frequently stopped to ask for photographs and to tell her that her story has been an inspiration.

While sharks are commonly found in the waters off Alabama and Florida, shark attacks are rare, said Gavin Naylor, director of the Florida Museum of Natural History's shark research program. He said there are between 50 and 90 unprovoked bites around the world each year. □

Six people have died in a helicopter crash in the Hudson River in New York City, an AP source says



A New York Fire Department Marine 1 boat departs from Pier 40, Thursday, April 10, 2025, in New York, across from where a helicopter went down in the Hudson River in Jersey City, N.J.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A helicopter crashed Thursday into the Hudson River just off Manhattan, killing six people, officials said. The fire department said it received a report of a helicopter in the water at 3:17 p.m. A official told The Associated Press that six people were aboard, and all were dead.

Videos posted on social media showed the Bell 206 mostly submerged, upside-down in the water.

Multiple rescue boats were seen circling the aircraft.

The rescue craft were near the end of a long maintenance pier for a ventilation tower serving the Holland Tunnel. Fire trucks and other emergency vehicles

were on streets near the scene with their lights flashing.

The skies over Manhattan are routinely filled with both planes and helicopters, both private recreational aircraft and commercial and tourist flights. Manhattan has several helipads that whisk business executives and others to destinations throughout the metropolitan area.

Over the years, there have been multiple crashes, including a collision between a plane and a tourist helicopter over the Hudson River in 2009 that killed nine people and the 2018 crash of a charter helicopter offering "open door" flights that went down into the East River, killing five people. □

Ukraine 'coalition of the willing' presses ahead with force planning amid doubts about U.S. support

By LORNE COOK and SAM McNEIL

BRUSSELS (AP) — Britain's defense minister on Thursday urged his counterparts from around 30 countries to press ahead with plans to deploy troops to Ukraine to police any future peace agreement with Russia, as questions remained over whether the United States would provide backup. Chairing the first meeting of the so-called coalition of the willing at the level of defense ministers, U.K. Defense Secretary John Healey said its members must ensure "that we're fully prepared for the moment a peace agreement is reached."

"We must be ready for when that peace comes. That's why the work of this coalition is so vital," Healey said at NATO headquarters in Brussels. He added that 200 military planners have been developing plans to deepen European involvement in Ukraine.

In a post on social media, Ukrainian Defense Minister Rustem Umerov said that "Ukraine is ready for peace one that is just and backed by strength."

Ukrainian government of-



Ukraine's Defense Minister Rustem Umerov arrives for a coalition of the willing defence ministers meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Associated Press

ficials and military analysts have said that Russian forces are preparing to launch a fresh military offensive in Ukraine in the coming weeks to maximize pressure on Kyiv and strengthen the Kremlin's negotiating position in ceasefire talks.

As usual with coalition gatherings, the United States did not take part. The success of the coalition's operation hinges on U.S. backup with

airpower or other military assistance, but the Trump administration has made no public commitment to provide support.

The Netherlands, Sweden and Finland underlined the "crucial" role of the United States.

"The United States is a crucial player still in guaranteeing lasting security" in Ukraine, said Finnish Defense Minister Annit Häk-

känen. His Swedish counterpart, Pål Jonson, said success in Ukraine requires "some form of U.S. engagement" while Dutch Defense Minister Ruben Brekelmans called American support "very important" but said the form it took might differ, depending on the chosen type of European mission in Ukraine.

EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said ministers were

"trying to keep the United States on board."

Amid that uncertainty and U.S. warnings that Europe must take care of its own security and that of Ukraine in future, the force is seen as a first test of the continent's willingness to defend itself and its interests.

Its make-up will depend on the nature of any peace agreement, but the contingent is unlikely to be stationed at Ukraine's border with Russia. It would be located further from the ceasefire line, perhaps even outside Ukraine, and deploy to counter any Russian attack.

Building a force big enough to act as a credible deterrent is proving a considerable effort for nations that shrank their militaries after the Cold War but are now rearming. U.K. officials have talked about possibly 10,000 to 30,000 troops.

Healey said that the "reassurance force for Ukraine would be a committed and credible security arrangement to ensure that any negotiated peace does bring what President Trump has pledged: a lasting peace for Ukraine." □

Hackers breach Morocco's social security database in an unprecedented cyberattack

By SAM METZ
Associated Press

RABAT, Morocco (AP) — Morocco's social security agency said troves of data were stolen from its systems in a cyberattack this week that resulted in personal information being leaked on the messaging app Telegram. The North African kingdom's social security fund administers pensions and insurance benefits to millions of private sector workers, from assembly line laborers to corporate executives. It said in a statement Wednesday that preliminary investigations suggest the leak resulted from hackers bypassing its security systems.

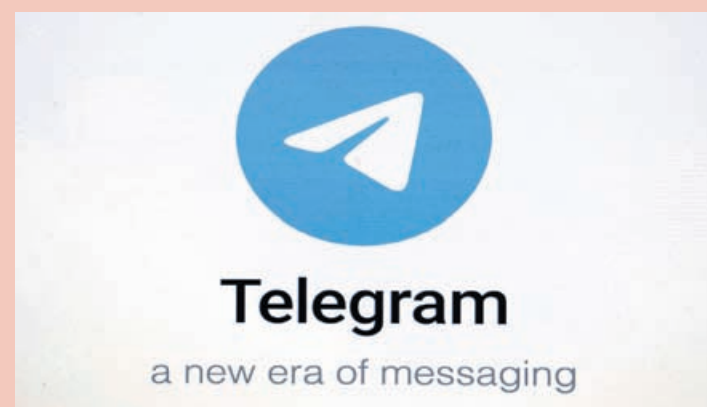
The agency did not say who was thought to be responsible for the leak while also claiming that many of the documents posted were "misleading, inaccurate, or incomplete." The hackers who posted the documents on Telegram said the attack was in response to alleged Moroccan "harassment" of Algeria on social media platforms, pledging additional cyberattacks if Algerian sites were targeted. Moroccan media have attributed the attack to Algerian hackers, describing it as an episode in a larger cyberwar between the two countries. Relations between Algeria and Morocco have

recently deteriorated to historic lows. The countries have withdrawn their ambassadors, closed their embassies and respective airspaces.

Algeria's support for the Polisario Front, a pro-independence movement fighting Morocco over the disputed Western Sahara, is among the roots of the tensions. Some of the leaked information touches on deeply sensitive issues in Morocco. Among the leaked documents is salary information that, if accurate, would reflect vast inequalities that continue to plague Morocco despite its strides in economic development. The trove includes unver-

fied financial data on executives of state-owned companies, political parties, figures associated with the royal family's holding company and charity fund, and the Israeli liaison office in Rabat.

Morocco's National Commission for the Protection of Personal Data said on Thursday that it stood ready to investigate complaints from people targeted in the leak. □



The logo for the Telegram messaging app is seen on a notebook screen in Munich, Germany, Oct. 17, 2022.

Associated Press

General strike against President Milei's austerity disrupts Argentina

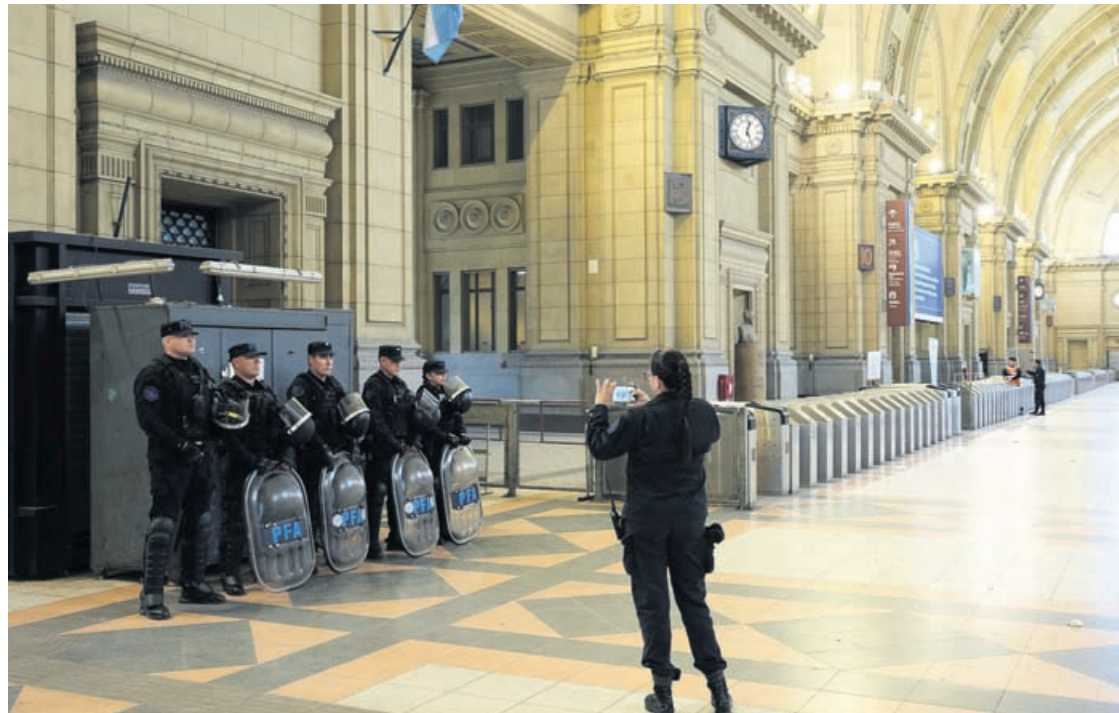
By ISABEL DEBRE
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentina's trains and subways were disrupted, flights grounded, grain shipments interrupted, deliveries halted and banks shuttered as unions held a general strike Thursday against the libertarian government of President Javier Milei.

The daylong strike comes as Milei is 16 months into a presidency that has sought to eliminate Argentina's fiscal deficit through severe austerity measures.

The stoppage led by the country's main union confederation, CGT, tried to bring Argentina to a standstill a day after union activists joined a weekly protest of retirees rallying for increases to their government pensions, most of which are now set at the equivalent of some \$300 a month and have lost significant ground to inflation.

Union members, including train conductors, teachers, customs officials, trash collectors and postal workers, walked off the job at midnight on Wednesday for 24 hours. Airports emptied as the main airlines halted operations. Many public hospitals were only dealing with emergencies. The government said the stoppage



A policewoman takes a photo of her colleagues at Consititucion train station that is empty due to a general strike against the austerity measures of President Javier Milei in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Associated Press

cost the economy some \$880 million.

"We are joining the strike for fair collective bargaining, solidarity with retirees and the country's poorest and for the crisis that we are experiencing," said Néstor Segovia, assistant secretary of the subway workers' union. Still, the strike appeared to draw only lukewarm support.

The bus workers' union opted out of the transport shutdown due to ongoing wage negotiations, allowing most commuters to take

their usual route to work. Although the taxis' union supported the stoppage, cabs could be seen cruising the streets for fares. In the trendy neighborhoods of Buenos Aires, cafes and clothing stores bustled as usual.

Argentina's powerful trade unions have been controlled by the Peronist party the country's long dominant political movement, now in opposition ever since they helped vault its founder, Juan Domingo Perón, to power in 1945.

They remain central to the system that Milei has sought to tear down.

"This strike pursues political interests and has nothing to do with the workers," said Manuel Adorni, spokesperson for Milei. "It's one of the last gasps of those who live off extortion and pressure." Across the deserted train stations in Buenos Aires, loudspeakers broadcast a government statement criticizing the strike as "an attack on the republic."

President Milei, for his part, appeared unfazed. All

morning, he shared dozens of social media posts celebrating an announcement that the Trump administration's Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent planned to visit Argentina next week.

"President Milei has brought Argentina back from economic oblivion," the Treasury's press release said, adding that Bessent would seek to "encourage the international community to fully support President Milei's economic reform efforts."

Those efforts, cheered by Wall Street, President Donald Trump and billionaire Elon Musk, have aimed to yank Argentina out of its traditional preserve of reckless spending under left-leaning populist rule.

Milei has slashed subsidies, undone price controls, scrapped government ministries and fired more than 42,000 state workers. The spending cuts hit the population immediately, with a big portion of the government's fiscal savings last year coming from social programs and pensions.

Thursday's general strike called on the government to boost spending on the gutted health and education sectors, reinstate fired employees and reopen talks over wage hikes, among other measures. □

Tunisia dismantles encampments housing migrants stranded en route to Europe

EL AMRA, Tunisia (AP) — Tunisian authorities this week dismantled dozens of makeshift camps housing African migrants as part of a sweeping operation to clear areas along the country's Mediterranean coastline and ease tensions with residents.

The makeshift camps, located on privately owned land, have long been the site of violent altercations between migrants and Tunisians from nearby El Amra and Jebeniana, two towns located north of Sfax, Tunisia's second largest city.

Brig. Gen. Hossam Eddine Jababli, spokesperson for Tunisia's national guard,

told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the sweeps intended to ensure "health and safety." He

said roughly 200 migrants who were detained hailed from sub-Saharan countries.



Migrants, mainly from sub-Saharan Africa, are stopped by Tunisian Maritime National Guard at sea during an attempt to get to Italy, near the coast of Sfax, Tunisia, on April 18, 2023.

Associated Press

Authorities also claimed to have seized caches of bladed weapons during the raids, and officials have since indicated that deportations may soon begin for those suspected of planning acts of violence.

They have previously suggested more than 20,000 people were sheltering in the camps, which are near a part of the coastline located less than 161 kilometers (60 miles) from the Italian islands that form the European Union's outermost borders.

Tunisian security forces have ramped up efforts to prevent migrants from reaching or crossing the

sea a journey that can be deadly. As of the end of February, 432 migrants arrived in Italy after embarking off Tunisia's coastline, according to the U.N. refugee agency.

The scope of the camps had long alarmed local communities and lawmakers. Tarek Mahdi, a parliamentarian from the region, told local radio that there were 17 camps in El Amra, where residents have staged protests.

Since the camps were dismantled, authorities said they had relocated migrants to state-owned lands in Bir Mellouli, southwest of Sfax. □

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Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!

NOORD - It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process. It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass. The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass."

The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry! Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough

edges. Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass. Each colored gem on the beach has its own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink" bottles.

If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or



jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day!

Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into treasures!

Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! ☐

Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Le Vent Beach Resort!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors

Mr. Charles & Mrs. Patricia Ricevuto from Brick New Jersey, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of LeVent Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "The feeling of safety & security on the island"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere grati-

tude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our "Dorado"



(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Dorado", a common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Dorado.

Dorado has many different names it can be referred to. Dral, Dorao, Drals, Drado, are some of them in Papiamentu. In English, it is also called Mahi Mahi, Dolphinfinch, or Dorado. It's a good example to reflect on why there can be many names. The same fish becomes known by different common names, why? Common names come only when a group of people, to understand each other, assign a name to a fish. Mahi Mahi, for example, comes from Hawaii and means "very strong". Dorado is based on Spanish and refers to the golden yellow color that the fish shines with under the sun. Why it's called Dolphinfinch in English is not well defined and while there are several stories around this, none have been confirmed.

Dorado is found in all tropical to subtropical oceans around the world. Dorado is very popular both for recreational fishing and for consumption. It is known among fishermen as an exciting catch and a fish that puts up a good fight. Its meat is very good for consumption and it is also commercially fished for that reason.

They grow very fast, up to 2.7 inches (almost 7 cm) per week. They can live up to a maximum of 5 years although very few reach that age. Most become adults within 1 year but many become reproductive after just 5 or 6 months and reproduce very quickly too. They live in open water on the surface most of the time. Many fish seek them around sushi lines or floating objects on the sea. Often you will find a group landing together and if you keep a male on the line, often the others will stay close or can keep the group interested by giving shrimp or squid.

Description:

Dorado has a distinctive body. It has a large tail and its long, flat body ends in a large blunt head. Its color of yellow and green or blue makes it immediately recognizable, even with small variations in these colors. Dorado has clear differences between adult females and males. The male is larger and can easily reach 50 to 80 pounds and has a much flatter head compared to the female. Therefore, male Dorados are also called "bull Dorado".

Dorado can be found in our waters around the island all year round, but there are periods when it is easier to find than others.

Source: The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (Santa Rosa).

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Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

ORANJESTAD - Aruba's City Center Street Car - or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" - is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered street-car operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the down town area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy

a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center- it is free for all! □



A quick snack for the road: Learn how to make the Aruban Pastechi!

(Oranjestad)—If you ever been to Aruba before, you probably heard of (and even tried) the Aruban Pastechi. Beloved by young and old, this tasty treat is a staple for party snacks, a quick lunch or even breakfast!

Here's how to make the Pastechi dough.

Ingredients:

4 cups of wheat flour
1 tbsp baking powder (if using self-rising flour, omit baking powder)
1 tsp salt
1 tbsp sugar
0.5 cup of melted butter
1 cup water
1 egg

Directions:

Sift your flour into a bowl and add all the dry ingredients before giving it a quick mix. Next add the butter, water and egg and mix until thoroughly combined. At this point, your dough will start to get sticky; time for an arm workout. Knead your dough into the bowl you are using or on a clean surface with some flour lightly dusted until its surface is smooth. You'll know your dough is ready when it doesn't stick to your hands or the surface on which you're kneading it. Let your dough rest covered for 15-20 minutes.

After resting, divide your dough into approximately 100 gram balls and roll it flat with a rolling pin. The thickness of the pastechi depends on your taste, but the average thinness would be around ¼ inch or so.

Filling for the pastechis varies according to your taste. The easiest and



most common filling you'll find in Aruba is a simple cheese filling. For this, we usually use shredded Gouda, but feel free to use any cheese that melts well when frying the pastry.

Place the filling on your rolled out piece of dough, fold it in half and pinch the sides shut with a fork. If you have a folding tool, feel free to use it for this process. Your pastechi is ready for the fryer!

If you want to store some pastechis for later use, you can freeze them. A good tip is to place a piece of wax paper in between each pastechi if you are to store them on top of one another. This way the pastechis don't stick to each other when defrosting.

Here in Aruba we enjoy pastechi at any time of the day, but it has become almost tradition to eat pastechis for breakfast on the way to work. Many roadside snack trucks sell pastechi from early morning to noon, and offer a variety of fillings like cheese; ham and cheese; ground beef and pulled chicken to name a few. □



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Sun catchers: The different lizards in Aruba

ORANJESTAD – Colorful or camouflaged, you're bound to encounter a variety of lizards basking in the sun or scurrying on their way in our island. From the charming, friendly iguanas to the good-luck gecko Pega-Pega, you're bound to meet a few of these special residents during your visit.

Aruba, as a desert island, is home to an incredible variety of unique and colorful species. Among them we can find different lizards, most of which have South American origins. But there are a few exceptions.

Iguanas



Iguanas are easy to spot, as they are larger than most other lizards and when young, have a bright green color that makes them stand out.

The iguanas usually found in Aruba are the Iguana iguana, known as the green iguana, or locally as Yuwana. The Yuwana are a mostly herbivorous species, and can grow up to 2 meters in size, including the tail, making them one of the largest in the iguana family. As you will see, despite their name, as they reach adulthood, the iguanas can take on a grey or blue tone instead of the bright green displayed by the young ones. In Aruba – as in the rest of the Kingdom of the Netherlands – the most usual color varies from green to lavender, black and sometimes a reddish brown.

Yuwana is a protected species, as it is listed under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), meaning that international trade is regulated through the CITES permit system. In the past, Arubans used

to eat a popular Yuwana soup, as it was believed to give strength and help restore health – probably due to the protein boost it delivered. However, it is now illegal to catch, kill, buy or sell Yuwanas in Aruba, and this includes eating them!

Turnip-tailed gecko



The turnip-tailed gecko is known locally as the Pega-Pega, meaning sticky-sticky, due to the way it sticks to walls using the suction in its little fingers. They are found inside houses, and are mostly a nocturnal animal.

According to Ethia Nativa, the local Pega Pega is immediately recognizable by its large size, with a body length of up to 12 cm, and its large, swollen tail, approximately the same length or slightly shorter than its body; females are larger and more robust than males. It has short, robust legs with flattened toes and extensive basal webbing. The undersides of its toes are covered in lamellae, which are used as friction pads to cling to smooth vertical surfaces. Some can even walk around completely upside down. Its toes are covered with ridges, which are peppered with millions of microscopic bristle-like structures called setae that attach and detach when the animal wills them to, and they never get gunked up.

They are variable in coloration, from a mottled dark gray to orange-brown, and are capable of changing color depending on their mood and surroundings. Mottled and banded markings aid in camouflage against tree bark. They are harmless and fragile; you can hold one in your hands as long as you are VERY gentle.

Never put pressure on its tail because it will surely drop as a mea-

sure to try to distract the predator, and they are different from other lizards because they're long-lived, talkative, lack eyelids, and their small scales are situated next to each other like cobblestones rather than overlapping as is the case in most other lizards.

Turnip-tailed Geckos are insectivorous and feed on cockroaches, grasshoppers, beetles, flies, mosquitoes, and spiders, which makes them the best pest control to have at home! They spend their days concealed in dark tree grooves and cavities, in narrow crevices in the walls, or behind paintings, which provide the perfect shelter for them. Pega pega is a gecko endemic to our island, but in time, some 4-5 intrusive gecko species have been observed, some of which do not cease to amaze us with the racket they make, especially during the hours of the night.

The Pega-pega Phyllodactylus Julieni is also a protected species in Aruba, by law. It is illegal to kill them!

Blue Kododo



These are one of the most striking lizards in Aruba, recognizable by the male's bright blue color. The Aruban whiptail lizard, Cnemidophorus arubensis, is a species endemic to Aruba, meaning you can only find it here on our One Happy Island! They are also recognized as the most common and populous lizard on the island. While the male is blue with white dots, the female is brown with blue dots.

These charming lizards eat mostly plants, such as flowers, nectar, leaves and fruits, and occasionally enjoy some insects. They are selec-

tive in which plants they eat, because of the toxins present in many available plants species. The Kododo help take care of Aruba's vegetation by playing a significant role in the dispersal of seeds for certain plants: when they eat fruit, they excrete the seeds in diverse locations, contributing to the reproduction cycle of our local plants.

Striped anole



The striped anole (Anolis lineatus) that lives in Aruba is known locally as Waltaka or Toteki. This is a species of lizard in the family Dactyloidae, and they are native to Aruba and Curaçao. It is usually found in dry areas, commonly where there are not large trees; rather they enjoy rocks, walls or tree trunks, as they prefer to stay close to the ground.

These lizards are about 7cm in length, have a brown color with a stripe on each side and typically, several stripes on the body and tail that are lighter in color. It has a dewlap which is orange-yellow – and what's unique about this species is that it is the only known species of anole where the dewlap is asymmetrically colored, with one side being a deeper orange and the other side a lighter yellow. Mostly this is seen in the males, as it is almost imperceptible in the females. If the Toteki shows you his dewlap, retreat! This is not a friendly greeting!

Lizards are wonderful creatures that are precious to our fragile, local ecosystem. Please be mindful of these residents as you enjoy your stay. □

Images: Some images are from Aruba Birdlife Conservation.

Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.

In the pre-industrial era of the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the time, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherland Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity that could have created a cultural ambience, with only one way to generate profit at the time for the sub existence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different economic pillar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experienced by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island, like going to the movie theater or coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much trace of a cultural climate for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island in the mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions



established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the general public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piterrella, as well as migrant authors José Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the literary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

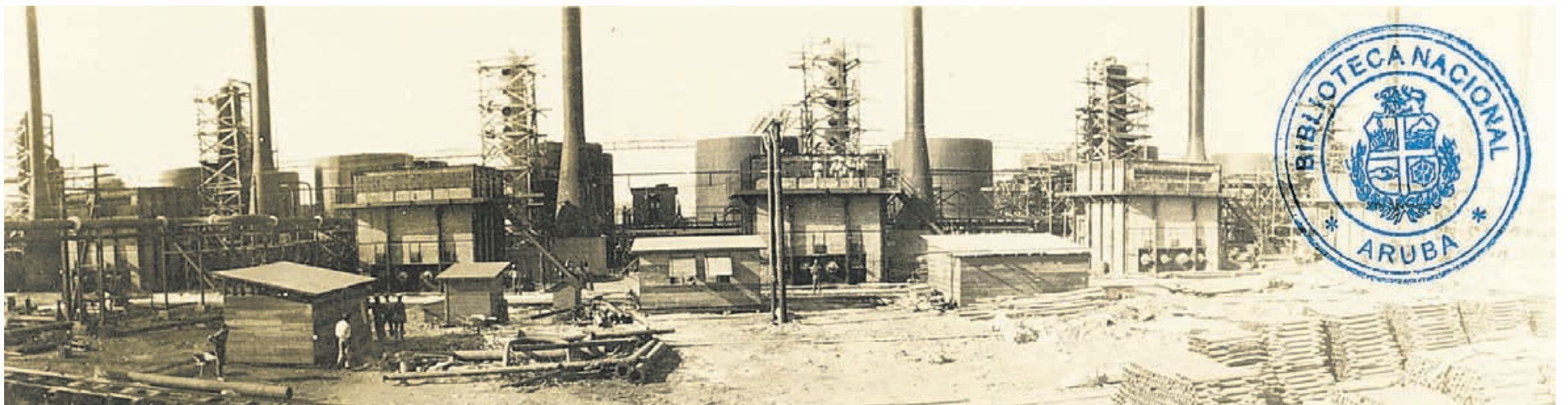
The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast

station Tele-Aruba in 1963, and with time and possibilities, local programs such as "Nos Tera" ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness within the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tongue, Papiamentu, but who also produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in response to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America, the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/ Dera Gai (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. □

Source: *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas



CROSSWORD

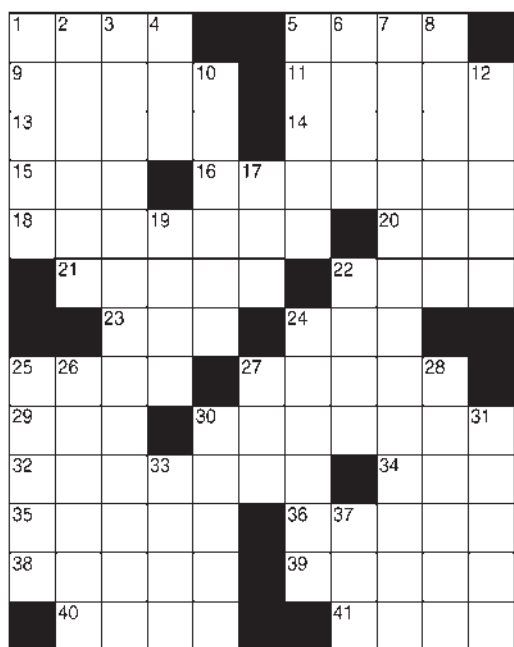
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Church offshoot
5 Vegas game
9 License
11 Site of action
13 Davis of "Thelma & Louise"
14 Floor squares
15 Longoria of TV
16 Like Ingrid Bergman
18 Law-making bodies
20 Wide shoe marking
21 Some Picassos
22 Cpl.'s subordinates
23 Knee protector
24 GPS screen
25 Needing aspirin
27 Amber source
29 Greek X
30 Fortify
32 Daily grind
34 Busy one in Apr.
35 Door sign
36 Patriot Allen

DOWN

- 38 Play part
39 Refine ore
40 Aphrodite's son
41 Crocus cousin
1 Wise ones
2 Late hour
3 Fourth in the lineup
4 Great weight
5 Trio of myth
6 Parched
7 Ace's replacement
8 "Just a moment"
10 Frittered away
12 Arson yield
17 Director Anderson
19 Call it —
22 Go by
24 Brawls
25 Farm units
26 Probability
27 Bird of myth
28 Kathmandu native
30 Uncovers
31 Talks crazily
33 Nevada city
37 "I don't need the details," for short



4-14

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

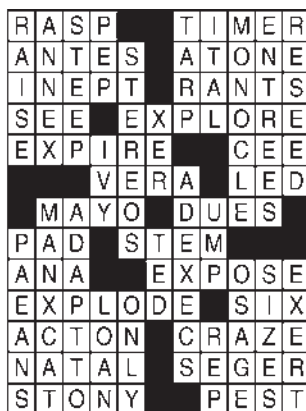
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-14

CRYPTOQUOTE

KMFQ SHOU UKUN XQU LEU
MVBK BHAE L H J V M S
YQM W UPLHVAFHNEUO
RMVNLUBBXLHMVN. — CXIBM
VUQFOX

Cryptoquote: WHOEVER IS HAPPY
WILL MAKE OTHERS HAPPY TOO. — ANNE
FRANK



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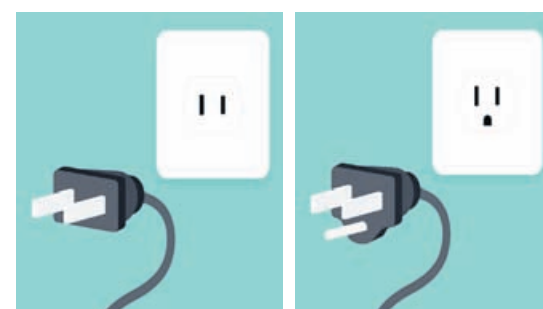
| | | | ARR | DEPT | BERTH | |
|-----|----|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| THU | 10 | AIDALUNA | 08.00 | 18.00 | C | 1 |
| FRI | 11 | ENCHANTMENT OF THE SEAS | 13.30 | 23.00 | C | 1 |
| SUN | 13 | CORAL PRINCESS | 09.00 | 18.00 | B | 1 |
| | | CELEBRITY BEYOND | 09.00 | 23.00 | C | 1 |
| | | FREEWINDS - Dept. | **** | 22.30 | G | - |
| TUE | 15 | CELEBRITY REFLECTION | 08.00 | 23.00 | B | 1 |
| | | CARNIVAL HORIZON | 09.00 | 23.00 | C | 1 |

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



Egg prices increase to record high despite Trump's predictions and bird flu outbreak slowing

By **JOSH FUNK** and **DEE-ANN DURBIN**
AP Business Writers

U.S. egg prices increased again last month to reach a new record-high of \$6.23 per dozen despite President Donald Trump's predictions, a drop in wholesale prices and no egg farms having bird flu outbreaks.

The increase reported Thursday in the Consumer Price Index means consumers and businesses that rely on eggs might not get much immediate relief. Demand for eggs is typically elevated until after Easter, which falls on April 20.

Industry experts were expecting the index to reflect a drop in retail egg prices because wholesale egg prices dropped significantly in March. University of Arkansas agricultural economist Jada Thompson said the wholesale prices did not start dropping until mid-March, so there may not have been enough time for the average price for the month to decline even though prices started to fall at the end of the month. And grocery stores may not have immediately passed on the lower prices. The bird flu effect

Bird flu outbreaks were cited as the major cause of price spikes in January and February after more than 30 million egg-laying chickens were killed to prevent the spread of the disease. Only 2.1 million birds were slaughtered in March and none of them were on egg farms. Egg prices hit \$5.90 in February one month after setting a record at \$4.95 per dozen, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The farms that had fall outbreaks have been working to resume egg production after sanitizing their barns and raising new flocks, but chickens must be about six months old before they start laying eggs. Thompson said those farms did not come back online as quickly as anticipated.

In the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture num-



A carton of eggs sit on a counter in the kitchen inside of 5 Rabanitos restaurant in Chicago, Feb. 16, 2025.

bers, there were only about 285 million hens laying eggs nationwide as of March 1, down from 293 million the previous month. Before the outbreak, the flock typically numbered more than 315 million.

Since the current bird flu outbreak began, more than 168 million birds have been slaughtered, most of them egg-laying chickens. Any time a bird gets sick, the entire flock is killed to help keep bird flu from spreading. That can have an effect on the egg supply because massive egg farms may have millions of

birds.

The disease is difficult to control because it is spread easily through the droppings of wild birds that carry the avian flu virus. Bird flu has also infected other animals, including dairy cattle and several dozen farm workers but officials maintain it is not a significant threat to humans.

Egg price politics Trump tried to take credit for the lower wholesale egg prices the USDA reported in recent weeks.

"The egg prices they were going through the sky. And you did a fantastic job,"

Trump said to Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins before he announced the details of his tariffs at the White House last week. □

Associated Press

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Apple has few incentives to start making iPhones in U.S., despite Trump's trade war with China

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE**
AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

President Donald Trump's administration has been predicting its barrage of tariffs targeting China will push Apple into manufacturing the iPhone in the United States for the first time.

But that's an unlikely scenario even with U.S. tariffs now standing at 145% on products made in China the country where Apple has manufactured most of its iPhones since the first model hit the market 18 years ago.

The disincentives for Apple shifting its production domestically include a complex supply chain that it began building in China during the 1990s. It would take several years and cost billions of dollars to build new plants in the U.S., and then confront Apple with economic forces that could triple the price of an iPhone, threatening to torpedo sales of its marquee product.

"The concept of making iPhones in the U.S. is a non-starter," asserted Wedbush Securities analyst Dan Ives, reflecting a widely held view in the in-



Sales staffs work at an Apple shop in Hanoi, Vietnam Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Associated Press

vestment community that tracks Apple's every move. He estimated that the current \$1,000 price tag for an iPhone made in China, or India, would soar to more than \$3,000 if production shifted to the U.S. And he believes that moving production domestically likely couldn't be done until, at the earliest, 2028. "Price

points would move so dramatically, it's hard to comprehend."

Apple didn't respond to a request for comment Wednesday. The Cupertino, California, company has yet to publicly discuss its response to Trump's tariffs on China, but the topic may come up on May 1 when Apple CEO Tim Cook

is scheduled to field questions from analysts during a quarterly conference call to discuss the company's financial results and strategy.

And there is no doubt the China tariffs will be a hot-button issue given Apple's stock price has dropped by nearly 20% and lowered the company's market

value by \$600 billion since Trump began increasing them on April 2.

If the tariffs hold, Apple is widely expected to eventually raise the prices on iPhones and other popular products because the Silicon Valley's supply chain is so heavily concentrated in China, India and other overseas markets caught in the crossfire of the escalating trade war.

The big question is how long Apple might be willing to hold the line on its current prices before the tariffs' toll on the company's profit margins become too much to bear and consumers are asked to shoulder some of the burden.

One of the main reasons that Apple has wiggle room to hold the line on its current iPhone pricing while the China tariffs remain in place is because the company continues to reap huge profit margins from the revenue generated by the subscriptions and other services tied to its product, said Forrester Research analyst Dipanjan Chatterjee. That division, which collected \$96 billion in revenue during Apple's last fiscal year, remains untouched by Trump's tariffs. □

OpenAI countersues Elon Musk in legal dispute over ChatGPT maker's business ambitions

By **MATT O'BRIEN**
AP Technology Writer
OpenAI is suing Elon Musk for unfair competition and

interfering with its business relationships with investors and customers, escalating a legal battle between

the ChatGPT maker and the billionaire who helped bankroll the artificial intelligence startup a decade ago.

The allegations against Musk were filed Wednesday in a federal court in California as a counterclaim to the Tesla CEO's lawsuit against OpenAI, which is heading to a jury trial next year.

Musk, an early OpenAI investor who now runs his own AI firm, xAI, along with Tesla, SpaceX, social media platform X and President Donald Trump's Department of Government Efficiency, began a legal offensive against OpenAI and its CEO Sam Altman

more than a year ago.

He first sued for breach of contract over what he said was the betrayal of its founding aims as a non-profit research laboratory, and later expanded his claims.

A federal judge in March denied Musk's request for a court order blocking OpenAI from converting itself to a for-profit company but said she could expedite a trial to consider Musk's claims.

She offered to hold a trial later this year, but it has been pushed back to March 2026.

In this week's counterclaim, OpenAI accuses Musk of making a "sham

bid" in February to buy a controlling stake in the nonprofit.

Musk and a group of investors offered \$97.4 billion for OpenAI's assets, a number that OpenAI said Musk pulled from the character 974 Prof in the science fiction novel "Look to Windward" by Scottish writer Iain Banks. Musk has also named some of his SpaceX machinery after ships in the book.

OpenAI said it "recognized the bid as a feint" but has repeatedly had to divert resources and "suffered harm as a result of Musk's unlawful campaign of harassment, interference, and misinformation." □



The OpenAI logo appears on a mobile phone in front of a screen showing part of the company website in this photo taken on Nov. 21, 2023 in New York.

Associated Press

Travis Hunter is still not sure which position NFL teams want him to focus on

By **MICHAEL MAROT**
AP Sports Writer
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) —

Some NFL teams are sending Heisman Trophy winner Travis Hunter to the offensive meetings first. Others have him meet the defensive coaches first.

Exactly two weeks before the league's annual draft is held in Green Bay, Hunter told The Associated Press he's not sure which position teams want him to focus on when his career begins — receiver or cornerback.

Hunter still insists he can excel at both.

"They want to see how much I can handle, and it's up to me at this point," he said Thursday. "It's just me being me."

What everyone wants to know, though, is where he will play and which team will give him those options next season.

Hunter is unique in modern football. He not only won the most prestigious award in college football, he also took home the Chuck Bednarik Award as college football's top defensive player and was named The Associated Press player of the year.

While a few players, including his college coach Deion Sanders, have dabbled with playing both ways, no-



Colorado wide receiver Travis Hunter takes part in passing drills during Colorado's NFL football pro day Friday, April 4, 2025, in Boulder, Colo.

Associated Press

body did it with more success than Hunter. The former Colorado star caught 96 passes for 1,258 yards and 15 touchdowns while at the same time making 35 tackles, breaking up 11 passes and picking off four. Hunter is generally considered the best receiver and best cornerback on this year's draft board, and that's gotten people debating whether he'd be better at one position or the other or whether his body could handle doing

both on a full-time basis. "Well, I'd say this, in terms of Travis Hunter, cornerback or receiver? The answer is yes," Cleveland Browns general manager Andrew Berry said in February at the league's annual scouting combine. "He can play both, and I think that's what makes him special. We would see him as a receiver primarily first, but I think part of, again, what makes him a bit of a unicorn is the fact that he can do both at a high level."

Cleveland could take Hunter with the second overall pick if Tennessee makes quarterback Cam Ward the No. 1 selection, as is widely expected. While Hunter has plenty of game tape to showcase his skills on the field, he skipped the combine workouts and said Thursday he has not been doing individual workouts at team facilities. He did, however, participate last week in drills at Colorado's Pro Day. He did not speak with re-

porters following the workout. Yet teams seem to have seen enough already. "He's a special player," Titans general manager Mike Borgonzi said. "We were watching him, and I don't know if there's anybody that's actually done what he's done in modern-day football, playing both offense and defense during the course of a season. He's definitely, he's a special player."

Perhaps the most telling part of Hunter's journey is that at this stage of the draft process, the best players typically get nitpicked apart and those concerns typically result in sliding in mock drafts.

Hunter has not heard many complaints and he has consistently remained in the top five selections and in many cases the top three.

"To be honest, I think I just need to see if my body will allow me to take all of this and continue to take all this," said Hunter, who spoke to AP after agreeing to an endorsement deal with Snickers that is packaging its candy bars and ice cream together. "But I do a lot of treatment, so I'm able to keep up with my body and with what I need for my body." □

Kwan has 4 hits, 4 RBIs as Guardians win 6-1 to send White Sox to their 8th straight loss



Cleveland Guardians' Steven Kwan drops his bat after hitting a single in front of Chicago White Sox catcher Matt Thaiss in the fourth inning of a baseball game in Cleveland, Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Steven Kwan had a homer and three singles and drove in four runs to help the Cleveland Guardians complete a three-game sweep and hand the Chicago White Sox their eighth straight loss with a 6-1 victory on Thursday.

Kwan singled leading off the first and scored on Kyle Manzardo's fourth home run of the season for a 2-1 lead, and the Guardians never trailed again. The White Sox, winless in April, dropped to 2-10 after losing a post-1900-record 121 games last year.

Brayan Rocchio doubled leading off the third and Kwan hit his second home run on the next pitch for a 4-1 lead. Kwan added run-scoring singles his next two times up to go 4 for 5.

Gavin Williams (1-0) allowed one run on three hits and two walks, striking out seven in five innings. Jakob Junis and Joey Cantillo both pitched two scoreless innings.

Jonathan Cannon (0-2) allowed six runs on seven hits and three walks in the loss, pitching 5 1/3 innings in his third start.

A rough month got worse when the White Sox put Korey Lee (left ankle) and Mike Tauchman (right hamstring strain) on the 10-day injured list before the game. Andrew Benintendi was put on the 10-day IL on Wednesday.

Key moment

Manzardo's home run came after a shaky first inning from Williams, who settled down after giving up a single and a walk before throwing two wild pitches in falling behind 1-0.

Key stat

The Guardians beat Chicago 1-0 and 3-2 in the first two games despite having just three hits in each something they hadn't done since 1901 in back-to-back victories. The Rockies were the last to do it 30 years ago. □

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Nick Dunlap becomes first Masters competitor in a decade and youngest in history to shoot 90

By **BEN NUCKOLS**

AP Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Nick Dunlap had seen some big numbers start creeping into his game before he arrived at the Masters.

Nothing could have prepared him for the amount of strokes he'd take in 18 holes on Thursday.

The 21-year-old Dunlap dropped five shots over his final three holes of an already nightmarish day to post a round of perfect bogey golf 18-over 90. That made him the first player in a decade, the third under age 50 and the first under age 38 to fail to break 90 at the Masters.

Dunlap, his eyes bloodshot and his face ashen as he walked from the 18th green to the scoring room to make his ugly score official, did not speak to reporters afterward.

"I've played with him a few times this year, and

what a great player, what a great guy," said Robert MacIntyre, whose 75 was the low score in a threesome that also included Billy Horschel (77). "He was struggling out there today,

(but) his attitude was solid. He didn't get in the way. He didn't lay off anything that was going to affect his two other playing partners because we've got a job to do.



Nick Dunlap chips to the green on the second hole during the first round at the Masters golf tournament, Thursday, April 10, 2025, in Augusta, Ga.

Associated Press

"I feel for him today, but he'll come back."

Ben Crenshaw was the last player to shoot in the 90s when he opened his final Masters appearance in 2015 with a 91 at age 63.

Most of the players to shoot 90 or worse were aging lions of the game. Masters champions Doug Ford and Horton Smith each did it twice. Charles "Chick" Evans and Fred McLeod accepted midcentury Masters invitations when they were decades past their peak, and each posted two scores beginning with a 9.

Dunlap had an unforgettable entry into professional golf. Last January, he became the first amateur since Phil Mickelson in 1991 to win on the PGA Tour with his triumph at The American Express in the California desert.

After some deliberation, he left Alabama to turn profes-

sional, and he won again in July at the Barracuda Championship.

This year has been more of a struggle. Dunlap shot 80 in the first round at Bay Hill last month and another 80 in the second round at the Players Championship, part of a run of three straight missed cuts before he arrived at Augusta National. On Wednesday, he said he was more relaxed than he was last year in his Masters debut.

"Yeah, just able to enjoy it, I'd say a little bit more. I think I was a little bit more stressed out and a little bit more tense last year," Dunlap said.

The stress returned quickly when he hooked his opening tee shot into the pine straw, leading to bogey. He dropped his driver after semi-shanking his tee shot on the short par-4 third, pointing to the right dejectedly as he yelled "Fore!"